

REMARKS

The present Amendment cancels claims 1-8 and adds new claims 9-18.

Therefore, the present application has pending claims 9-18.

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tezuka (U.S. Patent No. 5,764,911) and Tseng (U.S. Patent No. 6,570,608). As indicated above, claims 1-8 were canceled. Therefore, this rejection is rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

It should be noted that the cancellation of claims 1-8 was not intended nor should it be considered as an agreement on Applicants part that the features recited in claims 1-8 are taught or suggested by any of the references of record. The cancellation of claims 1-8 was simply intended to expedite prosecution of the present application.

As indicated above, the present Amendment adds new claims 9-18. New claims 9-18 are directed to a computer system and a method of managing connection relationships in the computer system which are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record whether taken individually or in combination with each other.

Particularly, the present invention is directed to providing a computer system having a utility program and an operation method in which the user can set a zoning function and a Logical Unit Number (LUN) security function without having to be concerned with the respective security levels of these functions in one graphical user interface screen and without causing any inconsistencies between these functions.

In order to understand these features of the present invention the Examiner's attention is directed to page 5, lines 19-27 of the present application.

Thus, according to the present invention as recited in the claims the management module refers to, in response to zoning information, an area in the zone table and the correspondence table to display symbols for computer ports and storage ports included in a zone corresponding to the zone information on the display screen.

Further, according to the present invention the management module sets an access restriction to a logical unit not to be accessed from the computer ports when a symbol of the logical unit is placed out of the zone.

Still further, according to the present invention when the user's request includes an instruction for creating a connection between symbols of computers, storage apparatuses and switch apparatuses not included in the zone table, the user's request is invalidated.

The above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record particularly Tezuka or Tserng whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner.

A discussion of the differences between the features of the present invention and Tezuka and Tserng is provided in the Remarks of the April 27, 2005 Amendment, said Remarks being incorporated herein by reference. In the Remarks of the April 27, 2005 Amendment, it was shown how the features of the then pending claims were not taught or suggested by Tezuka or Tserng whether taken individually

or in combination with each other. These arguments apply as well to the present claims and as such Applicants submit that the features of the present invention as recited in claims 9-18 are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record, particularly Tezuka and Tserng whether taken individually or in combination with each other.

The remaining references of record have been studied. Applicants submit that they do not supply any of the deficiencies noted above with respect to the references utilized in the rejection of claims 1-8.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 9-18 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 9-18 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (500.41163X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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